

But besides, this plan would allow the profitable employment of additional labor. When at any time, other teams and laborers could be spared to assist, though for only a few days, every thing is ready for them to go immediately to work. The pit is drained, the road is firm, and the field marked off for the loads. In this way, much labor may be obtained in the course of the year, from teams that would otherwise be idle, and from laborers whose other employments would be of but little importance. The spreading of marl on the field, is a job that will always be ready to employ any spare labor; and throwing off the covering earth from an intended digging of marl, may be done when rain, snow, or severe cold, have rendered the earth unfit for almost every other kind of labor."

As to the mode of applying marl, it consists simply in disposing of it in heaps over the field; then spreading it in the manner that is done with other manures; and finally, turning it in with the plough. It may sometimes, be used also as a top dressing.

The next subject of consideration and the most important one, relates to the *quantity* of marl to be employed. Specific directions under this head can scarcely be expected; so much depending upon the quality of the marl, so much more upon the nature of the soil to which it is applied. It is correctly remarked by the writer quoted, that "every application of calcareous earth (marl) to soil, is a chemical operation on a **great** scale. Decompositions and new combinations are produced, and in a manner generally conforming to the operator's expectations. But other and unknown agents may, sometimes, have a share in the process, and thus cause unlooked for results." The *general principle* which it is believed, however, may be safely laid down is, that the better the soil, the greater the quantity of calcareous manure which it will bear. A permanent *caution* which must at the same time be given is, to be ware of *over-marling*.

There is not the least doubt but that the benefit derived from marling, so far as its calcareous particles are concerned, will be in proportion to the putrescent matter naturally contained in the soil. In this respect it